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Board of Trustees
Dallas Independent School District
3700 Ross Avenue
Dallas, TX 75204

Re: **Proposed Naming of District Facility:**
“The Dave Andres Ballpark at JFK Learning Center”

Distinguished Officers and Members of the Board of Trustees:

As an alumni of the Dallas Public Schools, parent of three alumni and happy DISD taxpayer, I write this letter in support of naming the new baseball field at the JFK Learning Center in honor of Dave Andres. Mr. Andres was a great friend of our community, the DISD, my family and scores of residents whose lives were improved by his vision and development of the Henderson Avenue, Ross Avenue and Greenville Avenue areas of East Dallas.

First, a little background: My son, Paul Stanley, loves baseball. One day, without any prompting, he proclaimed that he wanted to build a little-league baseball field in a disadvantaged part of Dallas so that young kids could have the same opportunities that he had to play little-league baseball in North Dallas. His mother and I were obviously very proud of this suggestion, but asked him how he planned to accomplish this goal. We discussed it as a family and suggested that he contact Marc Andres, a close family friend, for some guidance (Marc had recently built a little-league ballpark on his own near our home).

Paul met with Marc Andres and Marc enthusiastically embraced the idea. In fact, Marc told him that his family had been developing a good deal of real estate around Henderson Avenue and that he, too, had been toying with the idea of giving back in the form of constructing a little-league ballpark in that area. Marc agreed to mentor Paul in this project. They first approached a nearby school, but there was not the land available. The principal at that school suggested that they speak with the principal at the JFK Learning Center. That principal, Carolina Leon, was thrilled with the suggestion. She spoke to the District and indicated that her school had sufficient land to build a little-league park.

Paul then needed to embark on two concurrent paths: (i) find an architect and engineer to determine the feasibility and donate construction plans; and (ii) raise the estimated \$50,000 to build the project. Under Marc Andres' guidance, Paul accomplished both goals – and with the cooperation of the DISD, a beautiful little-league ballpark was built.

So why should the ballpark be named after Dave Andres? I know that the Andres family has written extensive letters to you about Dave and his major accomplishments in the area, so I want to boil my thoughts down to two simple points. First, the Andres family donated \$20,000 of the almost \$60,000 raised to build the ballpark (my firm also gave \$10,000). Second, the Board should want to encourage these types of public – private partnerships more often and, if feasible, recognize the wishes of those who conceived and completed the project. Quite simply, there would be no ballpark but for the efforts of Paul Stanley and Marc Andres.

Our family would be very honored for you to grant this request and name the ballpark in honor of a great man, Dave Andres.

Thank you for your consideration of this request.

Very truly yours,



Marc R. Stanley